

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

date in most cities of the United States has never been. The city is completely controlled and exploited by outside forces and this is what ACT stands against. We stand for complete control of the Negro community by Negroes, and we don't refer to black people in America as "Negroes" -- we refer to them as Afro-Americans, Africans, or black people, -- and that we feel that it is necessary that power come to the black community in order that they may develop those things that are necessary for them to function within the total society as equals.

SOUTH: "Thank you for calling, sir."

CALLER: "Thank you."

SOUTH: "Good night."

"This is the 'Hot Line'."

CALLER (female): "Hello?"

SOUTH: "May we have your question or your comment?"

CALLER: "Mr. SOUTH, I have a comment and a slight question too. I think that this organization that they are performing now, I think that this would be a very good thing to happen in our different neighborhoods, not only do we need this for demonstration and we need it for violence or whatever they are talking about. As far as the police department, I have no kick against the police department as far as me. But I think it's a whole lot of things, because have you thought about, too, there's a many a people, and I know I'm a woman alone, and I know there's a many a people, even sick in bed, and you can call for help, you can even call for the police department. Sometimes you can't even get one and do you know it would be a nice thing to even have people that you could even call to see that you go into a hospital, because you can

go to none of these hospitals, you can't have  
all kinds of insurance, they are prejudiced.  
they don't want to do anything for you.  
You can't even go to the counter, you have  
to stay on the outside out there. I have  
gone out and stayed as long as 12 or 15 hours  
and I would be sick and couldn't get waited  
on. And I think that if they could  
even get this organization built up that  
they can protect the Negroes. I think that  
this would be a great thing, not against the  
police department, because I think Chicago  
has a nice police department, I have no  
kick against them...

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BOYEN:

"And what was your question?

CALLER:

"And then the question that I wanted to  
ask, would these people be able to do  
these things -- not just pick up the  
pick -- are these people trained to do this  
work?

BOYEN:

"The units that function in the South, or  
they are in the process at the moment of set-  
ting up a chapter in Chicago, but all of  
the chapters in the South go through  
rigorous training programs to be sure  
every Deacon can operate at peak level.  
Now, these are things that I learned from  
calling to Mr. THOMAS. As WILSON says,  
Mr. THOMAS is going to be the one to  
himself, or at least he's going to be  
himself, and I would suspect that he would  
be able to answer these questions in much  
more detail.

CALLER:

"Thank you, sir.

BOYEN:

"Thank you for calling.

"(Commercial).



ROOMS OF OFFENSE AND  
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

10           Caller           "Did I understand you to say at the beginning  
11                           the program that you would have some representative  
12                           from this organization within the next few days?

13           South           "Yes, sir.

14           Caller           "All right, now. Well my question is, do you think  
15                           that the Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan is refusing  
16                           to expose anything connected with his organization?

17           South           "I haven't the slightest idea.

18           Caller           "Well I just saying that since he refused.....  
19                           (unintelligible)

20           South           "Well I ask him when he comes on.

21           Caller           "I wish you could ask him that.

22           South           "I really couldn't say what this man would do.  
23                           I've never even met him.

24                           \*\*\*\*\*

25           South           "Hello, Hot Line.

26           Caller           "Hello, Mr. South. I'd like to comment on your  
27                           program tonight.

28           South           "Yes, sir.

29           Caller           "I've heard a lot of what the people are saying and  
30                           I disagree with just about every call you've had,  
31                           except one and I thought he was very articulate in  
32                           stating his composition and I cannot see where  
33                           Chicago needs (unintelligible) unless you are  
34                           going to work in areas (unintelligible) as far  
35                           as voting, as far as volunteering for youth  
36                           organizations to help (unintelligible), values  
37                           of education and a few other things of that  
38                           nature. Other than that, I don't see where we  
39                           need them because you cannot have two police  
40                           departments in one city. And by then not caring  
41                           whether its against the law in this state and  
42                           in the city, I do not see how they can protect  
43                           any civil rights workers who are demonstrating

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4 DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
5 JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
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9 or anything else, in all white areas.

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11 South "Did you want to comment on that.

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13 Rogers "Yes. I think it deserves comment. Number one,  
14 we here at the program do not know as yet exactly  
15 what areas the Deacons have decided to work in  
16 in Chicago. But on the other hand, I think that  
17 there are too many organizations and individuals  
18 throughout the community who are actually training  
19 Negroes into submission. Now I think one of the  
20 jobs that I would like to see the Deacons do is  
21 to re-instill manhood in black men. That is to  
22 re-instill the idea that men must of right and  
23 ought to protect themselves, their property and  
24 their family. And this is obviously lacking in  
25 many Negroes over 21 years of age and I don't  
26 thing you can be a man unless you possess the  
27 qualities that go along with being a man and  
28 that is to be willing to protect your family  
29 and your home and your children.

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31 Caller "I don't thing you'll find any Negro man, unless  
32 there are very few, who are not willing to  
33 protect their rights and their family and their  
34 home and what not. And a new organization coming  
35 up, I agree with you a lot of organizations in  
36 Chicago who are working for Negroes rights, but to  
37 me they are all going and assuming different  
38 directions until very few are making much headway.  
39 We are making headway, and I don't say that  
40 Chicago has the best police force in the nation  
41 but it's a big organization and any big organization  
42 that you find you're going to find a few goons.  
43 These men are human. They've got their prejudice  
44 too. They're police, but they've still got their  
45 prejudice. I don't think that among the police  
46 that Chicago has that it's running rampant through  
47 the whole force. And to me, if you bring in  
48 another group and something should start where  
49 there is a peaceful demonstration and then there's  
50 hecklers like there was at Mayor Daley's house,  
51 and the Deacons are there to protect those peaceful  
52 demonstrators, we would have a riot. And in a  
53 riot, it's hard to tell who's right and who's  
54 wrong. Especially when you have two groups at  
55 odds with each other. They're both violent.



DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

It's much easier to tell if you have a non-violent group here and a violent group here. It's easy to spot those who were committed to violence before than if you have two violent groups. And this police force to me isn't like the fatal police force in the South. If I feel very wholeheartedly that the Deacons do need to have an organization in the South because there is a great lack of law and order there. And I am not seeing any breakdown of law and order here. This is what I'm wondering about.

Rogers

"I want to comment. Number one, I don't understand that everytime the Deacon's name is brought up, it's brought up in the framework of violence. And that is in (unintelligible) to the police force. I don't think anything has ever been suggested that the Deacons of defense and justice have any real relationship to being in opposition to the police force. But what I am saying is this is a position organizationally that I think as being a part of ACT, an organization who is out for justice and out for the equality of black people in Chicago and in America. ACT is a national organization. But I think that we overlook too many things when we say that we don't need the help of every organization that has something to offer in the area of creating a climate of equality on the part of all mankind and one of those qualities is that people act and react like men to any given situation. I don't want to take up a lot of time, but certainly Chicago offers many areas where that is not the case. It is remiss in the treatment of Negroes. To say that we have made a lot of headway is wrong. The school system is worse today in 1965 than it was in 1955. And getting more segregated every year. So we are not making the kind of progress except that we are making progress in the newspapers, but in fact in many cases we're going backward and there must be a reason. One of these reasons may be that the organizations are not taking a militant enough stand.

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
JUSTICE, INCORPORATED

Caller "I agree with you. But don't you think you could take a much more militant attitude if we would teach people how to vote, if we would teach our kids, not our kids individually, but say our kids as a race, and try teaching them the value of property and not destruction of property?

Rogers "We have to first give them some property to (unintelligible).

Caller "No, not necessarily.

Rogers "Well, let me make that point. When most of the property that the Negroes that you're taking about live in are owned by absentee slum landlords, who do not care anything about the people who live there to ask these people to be constantly looking out for this man's interest so that he can live out of the city and take his kids to the better schools and ask these people to be peaceably and be nice while they live in abject poverty, I think is asking too much. I do not ask Negroes to be that way.

Caller "How about those Negro landlords who live in the area with the absentee landlords who own property and try to keep it up. And a few Negro absentee landlords although they live away still try to keep their property up. What are they to do with the destruction of these other kids from these absentee landlords that you're talking about?

South "Well, we've just run out of time. Thank you for calling. I want to thank you very much Nahaz Rogers for being our guest tonight and I hope you might ask Mr. Ernest Thomas and see if you could get him on, say by the end of the week or the first of next week.

Rogers "I will certainly extend the invitation to him, Wesley, and thanks a lot for inviting me.



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5 DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND  
6 JUSTICE, INCORPORATED  
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9  
10 South

"You know, being the host here I can always have  
the last word and I want to say this. Regarding  
what you think about Negro men not standing up,  
I don't think there's a man in Chicago Negro  
white or otherwise where you could go in his  
house where he would not stand up. Do you agree  
or disagree?

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18 Rogers

"I know of cases where.....  
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 11/3/65

SAC, BOSTON (157-387) RVC

SUBJECT: FRIENDS OF THE DEACONS, aka  
Deacons for Defense and Justice,  
Deacons  
RM

Re Boston letter to Director dated 10/8/65 and  
Bureau letter to Boston dated 10/11/65 captioned "Rebellion"  
Information Concerning (IS)", which advised that New Orleans  
was Office of Origin on matter concerning the Deacons,  
and that that office should be furnished all pertinent  
information concerning same.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of a LHM,  
one of which is meant for a Bureau file on "Rebellion",  
Information Concerning, which is mentioned in the enclosed  
LHM.

2-Bureau (Encs. 9) ENCLOSURE  
2-New York (Encs. 2)  
(1 - 100- [REDACTED])  
(1 - 100- [REDACTED])  
3-New Orleans (Encs. 7)  
15-Boston (157-387)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 [REDACTED] 7-1-140  
REASON - FCIM 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-3-85

(1 - Secret Service, Boston) REC-41  
(1 - 108th INTC Group, Boston)  
(1 - 100-33026) [REDACTED]  
(1 - 157-372) "Rebellion" EX-101  
(1 - 105-11846) [REDACTED]  
(1 - 105-11847) [REDACTED]  
(1 - 105-11724) [REDACTED] b7C  
(100-new) [REDACTED]  
(100-new) [REDACTED]  
(100-new) [REDACTED]  
(1 - 100-36576) [REDACTED]  
(1 - 157-117) (Boston Action Group)  
(100-new) [REDACTED]  
(100-dead) ("Fathers for Defense")

57-466-85

12 NOV 8 1965

JEN:mm  
(22)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

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BS 157-387

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Enclosed for New Orleans are three copies of the LHM and two Zerox copies each of LHMs, one dated 9/30/65 captioned "Publication 'Rebellion', Information Concerning" and the other dated 10/6/65 captioned "Friends of the Deacons, aka Deacons for Defense and Justice, Deacons, Racial Matters."

Two copies of the LHM are being furnished New York due to their interest in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7  
[REDACTED] b  
(c)  
The LHM is being classified confidential since it contains information furnished by the above mentioned sources which could logically result in identification of sources of continuing value, jeopardize their future activity and be detrimental to the defense interest of the United States.

[REDACTED] was interviewed on 10/13/65 with SAC authority by SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] b7C b7D

In view of the fact that membership in the "Deacons" in Boston is limited to the four persons who organized it, the fact that it has been unable to expand beyond this point and that its activities have been limited to its original organizing public meeting, this case is being referred upon completion to New Orleans subject to being reopened if activities warrant. The activities of individual members will be followed in individual case files.

New Orleans and the Bureau will be kept advised of any pertinent activity with respect to the Deacons.

- 2 -

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XXXXXX  
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1), (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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X

FRIENDS OF THE DEACONS, ALSO  
KNOWN AS DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
AND JUSTICE, DEACONS. RACIAL  
MATTERS

[REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D

[REDACTED]

The September 29, 1965 issue of "Rebellion", on Page 3, carried an article captioned "Deacons Hold Rally". This described the rally held at the Roxbury Branch of the YMCA a little over a month ago sponsored by the Boston Friends of the Deacons for Defense. It claimed the meeting was fruitful and encouraging and attended by 150 or more persons. The roster of speakers included Roland Bedford of the Boston Friends of the Deacons; Floyd Hardwick of "Rebellion" and Bill McAdoo and David Douglas, both of the Harlem Defense Counsel of New York City.

The central theme of the discussion was the growing need of the masses of black people to be made fully aware of the total insecurity of their portion in the framework of American society.

This issue of "Rebellion" states that the paper is a private publication published in the interest of the nonwhite communities of Boston, Massachusetts. Its masthead states,

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FRIENDS OF THE DEACONS, ALSO  
KNOWN AS DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
AND JUSTICE, DEACONS. RACIAL  
MATTERS

"Better to fight on your feet than to live on your knees".

This document contains neither recommendations nor  
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is  
loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be dis-  
tributed outside your agency.

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1.

APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM

In January, 1957, a source advised Elijah Muhammad has described his organization on a nationwide basis as the "Nation of Islam" and "Muhammad's Temples of Islam."

On May 7, 1965, a second source advised Elijah Muhammad is the national leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI); Muhammad's Temple of Islam Number 2, 5335 South Greenwood Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, is the national headquarters of the NOI; and in mid-1960 Muhammad and other NOI officials, when referring to Muhammad's organization on a nationwide basis, commenced using either "Mosque" or "Temple" when mentioning one of "Muhammad's Temples of Islam."

The NOI is an all-Negro organization which was originally organized in 1930 in Detroit, Michigan. Muhammad claims to have been selected by Allah, the Supreme Being, to lead the so-called Negro race out of slavery in the wilderness of North America by establishing an independent black nation in the United States. Members following Muhammad's teachings and his interpretation of the "Koran" believe there is no such thing as a Negro; the so-called Negroes are slaves of the white race, referred to as "white devils," in the United States; and the white race, because of its exploitation of the so-called Negroes, must and will be destroyed in the approaching "War of Armageddon."

In the past, officials and members of the NOI, including Muhammad, have refused to register under the provisions of the Selective Service Acts and have declared that members owe no allegiance to the United States.

On May 5, 1958, the first source advised Muhammad had, upon advice of legal counsel, tempered his personal statements and instructions to his ministers concerning the principles of his organization in order to avoid possible prosecution by the United States Government; however, he did not indicate any fundamental changes in the teachings of his organization.

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2.

APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM

On May 3, 1965, a third source advised Muhammad had, early in July, 1958, decided to de-emphasize the religious aspects of the teachings of Islam and to stress the economic benefits to be derived by those Negroes who joined the NOI. This policy change, according to Muhammad, would help him acquire additional followers and create more interest in his programs.

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APPENDIX

STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA

"The Columbia Owl," weekly student newspaper of Columbia University, New York City, December 12, 1962, issue, page one, contained an article entitled "Students to Visit Cuba During Holidays." This article stated in part that the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was formed October 14, 1962, by a group of students from New York City universities, the University of Wisconsin, Oberlin College and the University of North Carolina, who stated that as students they would like a chance to see and evaluate the situation in Cuba for themselves and had received an offer of transportation and two weeks' stay in Cuba from the Federation of University Students in Havana, as guests of the Federation. The Committee accepted the offer and applied to the State Department of the United States for passport validation which was refused; however, over fifty students planned to defy the State Department ban and go to Cuba.

A source advised on December 6, 1962, it was learned the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba had recently been formed by the Progressive Labor Group.

A second source advised on September 13, 1963, that during the summer of 1963, fifty-nine individuals traveled to Cuba: the leaders of the group were members of the Progressive Labor Movement; and the trip was planned and organized by Progressive Labor Movement members.

A third source advised on October 9, 1963, the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was utilizing Post Office Box 2178, New York, New York, as its mailing address.

On March 12, 1965, [REDACTED] advised as follows:

The Student Committee for Travel to Cuba (SCTC) was formerly known as the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba and the Permanent Student Committee for Travel to Cuba.

[REDACTED] was a leader and participant of the 1963 trip to Cuba and an organizer of the 1964 trip to Cuba and both trips were sponsored by the SCTC.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



**X**

APPENDIX

2.  
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STUDENT COMMITTEE FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA

By the Spring of 1964, the Executive Committee of the SCTC was considered to be members of the Progressive Labor Movement.

No trip to Cuba or China was being planned by the SCTC for 1965.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY (PLP)  
PROGRESSIVE LABOR MOVEMENT (PLM)

A source advised on April 20, 1965, that the PLP, formerly known as the PLM, held its first national convention April 15-18, 1965, at New York City, to organize the PLM into a PLP. The PLP will have as its ultimate objective the establishment of a militant working class movement based on Marxism-Leninism.

"The New York Times," City Edition, Tuesday, April 20, 1965, page 27, reported that a new party of "revolutionary socialism" was formally founded on April 18, 1965, under the name of the PLP. The PLP was described as an outgrowth of the PLM. Its officers were identified as Milton Rosen, New York, President, and William Epton of New York and Mort Scheer of San Francisco, Vice Presidents. A 20-member National Committee was elected to direct the party until the next convention.

According to the article, "The Progressive Labor Movement was founded in 1962 by Mr. Rosen and Mr. Scheer after they were expelled from the Communist Party of the United States for assertedly following the Chinese Communist line."

The PLP publishes the "Marxist-Leninist Quarterly," a theoretical magazine; "Progressive Labor," a monthly magazine; "Challenge," a New York City newspaper; and "Spark," a west coast newspaper.

The June 1, 1965, issue of "Challenge," page 6, states that, "this paper is dedicated to fight for a new way of life - where the working men and women own and control their homes, factories, the police, courts, and the entire government on every level."

The source advised that the PLP utilizes the address of General Post Office Box 808, Brooklyn 1, New York, but also utilizes an office in Room 622, 132 Nassau Street, New York City, where PLP publications are prepared.

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APPENDIX

1.

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

The May, 1960, issue of the "Young Socialist" ("YS"), page 1, column 3, disclosed that during April 15-17, 1960, a national organization entitled "Young Socialist Alliance" (YSA) was established at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This issue stated this organization was formed by the nationwide supporter clubs of the publication "YS."

The above issue, page 6, set forth the Founding Declaration of YSA. This declaration stated YSA recognizes the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) as the only existing political leadership on class struggle principles, and that the supporters of the "YS" have come into basic political solidarity with the SWP on the principles of revolutionary socialism.

A source advised on May 7, 1965, that the original YSA was an organization formed during October, 1957, in New York City, by youth of various left-socialist tendencies, particularly members and followers of the SWP. The leaders of this group were the guiding forces in the establishment of the national organization.

The source further advised on May 7, 1965, YSA is dominated and controlled on a national basis by the SWP through having SWP members comprise exclusively the National Executive Committee (NEC) and through an official SWP representative at all YSA NEC meetings. The YSA, in reality, is the youth and training section of the SWP and the main source of new SWP members.

The headquarters of the YSA is located in Room 631, 41 Union Square West, New York City.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

11/4/78

1 - Mr. [redacted]  
1 - Mr. [redacted]

To: SACs Atlanta (100-5536)  
Chicago (100-2535C)  
New York (100-136585)  
New Orleans (100-16200)

From: Director, FBI (100-106670)

CLASS. & EXT. BY 2842 PMA/gjs  
REASON - FBI  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-4-85

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

Re WFO airtel 11/3/65 to the Bureau, All SACs, Chicago and Chicago, "HCUA, Klan Investigation, Racial Matters (HCUA)" For the information of New York and New Orleans, [redacted] information from [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

1 - Washington Field (100-40164)

157-2466 -

1 - Bufile 157-2466 (Deacons of Defense and Justice)

NOT RECORDED  
200 NOV 8 1985

SFP:deh

SEE NOTE PAGE 2.

(13)

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Airtel to AT, CG, NY and MO  
Re: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
100-122670

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago is instructed to immediately advise local authorities, Secret Service and the Army Intelligence on a highly confidential basis that the Bureau is in receipt of uncorroborated information that [REDACTED]

All recipients should attempt, through established reliable sources, to obtain information which would either corroborate or discredit [REDACTED] claims. Take due regard for security of source.

Chicago is referred to its airtel and letterhead memorandum 10/26/65 concerning the Deacons of Defense and their attempt to obtain further information regarding [REDACTED] concerning the possibility of the Deacons being organized in [REDACTED]. Chicago must stay on top of this situation to insure that any organization of the Deacons is immediately known and reported.

New Orleans, no origin concerning the Deacons, attempt to determine whether there is any indication that the organization has spread to Pennsylvania and New Jersey and, if appropriate, set out leads.

The Bureau should be kept promptly advised of all developments in this matter and information obtained should be submitted in a form suitable for dissemination.

NOTE:

Memorandum from Baumgardner to Mr. Sullivan, 11/4/65, captioned "Martin Luther King, Jr., Security Matter - Communist" recommended dissemination of the information from [REDACTED] to the White House, Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Assistant Attorneys General Yeagley and Doar, Secret Service and the military intelligence agencies and additionally noted that appropriate instructions were going forward by a separate airtel to the field. Instant airtel serves that purpose.

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

FBI

Date: November 2, 1965

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

(Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466) (157-

FROM SAC, CHICAGO (157-572) (157-840)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RACIAL MATTER (ORGANIZATION)[REDACTED] b7C  
RACIAL MATTER

Re Chicago airtel to the Bureau, 10/26/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of a letterhead memorandum, two copies for New Orleans for information and two copies for Seattle, concerning captioned matter.

One copy of this letterhead memorandum is being designated for Region I, 113th INTC Group; United States Secret Service; and United States Attorney, all Chicago, Illinois.

LEADSSEATTLE

AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON. Enclosed letterhead memorandum contains information that the only known Northern branch of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ) is in Seattle, Washington.

- ④ - Bureau (Enc. 9)  
2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Enc. 2)  
ENCLOSURE 57- [REDACTED]  
2 - Seattle (Enc. 2)  
3 - Chicago  
1 - 157-413

LGR/cah  
(11)

AGENCY: COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE BY [REDACTED]

DATE: 11/5/65

HOW FOR: [REDACTED]

BY: [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-21-80 BY SP1884/10

15 NOV 4 1965

C.C. Wick

C.P.M. C.J.



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12 CG 157-572

13 CG 157-840  
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15 Seattle, if not already handled, report activities of  
16 DDJ at Seattle.  
17

18 CHICAGO  
19

20 AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will be alert for any infor-  
21 mation concerning the opening of a Chicago Chapter of the DDJ  
22 and the Bureau and New Orleans will be kept fully informed of  
23 developments in this matter.  
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Chicago, Illinois  
November 2, 1965

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RACIAL MATTER (ORGANIZATION)

**[REDACTED]** b7C  
RACIAL MATTER

The following article appeared in the October 21, 1965, issue of the "Chicago Defender", a Chicago, Illinois, newspaper:

"Wither Thou Goest, I go...seems to be the new pattern for the Deacons of Defense and Justice with regard to the movements of the Ku Klux Klan. Since the Ku Kluxers and its menagerie of prehistoric, fire-spewing characters, made its splashy entrance into our great State of Lincoln, the Deacons' vice president, Earnest Thomas, has announced his indefinite stay in Chicago. Word is that the Klan has organized four chapters in Illinois thus far; Thomas is looking for recruits to join his self-defense organization. The only known northern branch is in Seattle, Washington.

"Self-Defense vs. Non-Violence was the theme of a program sponsored by the Westside Organization last Sunday. Thomas and Nahaz Rogers of ACT spoke on the side of self-defense, while Rev. C.T. Vivian and Rev. James Bevel defended their non-violence stand. It played to a SRO crowd at the Westside's First Congregational Church.

"Deacon Thomas discussed tactics of police and law enforcement officers and their one-way road of justice on the Lou House show Saturday. It is Thomas' belief that if the Deacons had been organized at the time NAACP leader Medgar Evers of Mississippi was murdered, it would not have happened. The Deacons claim they are dedicated to the protection of civil rights workers and defenseless Negroes."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-21-80 BY SP1/pb/40

ENCLOSURE

NOV 9 1965

On November 1, 1965, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that no information has been developed that would indicate that a chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc. (DDJ), has been formed in Chicago. Earnest Thomas continues to remain in Chicago and is reportedly attempting to get office space on the west side of Chicago but to date he has not been able to obtain any office space. He added that it appears that Thomas has received very little encouragement, if any, from civil rights groups in Chicago. He added that there has not been any indication that Thomas has attempted to purchase or obtain any weapons while in Chicago.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is the property of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



FBI

Date: 11/3/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via **AIRTEL**

(Priority)

To: Director, FBI and  
SAC, New York

From: SAC, Pittsburgh (157-429) (P)

**THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
RACIAL MATTERS**

Re Newark airtel to Bureau, 9/20/65; Baltimore  
letter to Bureau, 9/22/65, and Pittsburgh letter to Bureau,  
10/12/65.

It is noted that Newark LHM, which was forwarded  
with re Newark airtel dated 9/20/65, indicated that some affair  
was to be held at Harpers Ferry, Maryland, on 12/4/65 in honor  
of JOHN BROWN.

On 10/25/65, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Harpers Ferry, West Virginia,  
advised SA [REDACTED] that two Negro women,  
[REDACTED] New York, New York,  
and [REDACTED] Brooklyn, N. Y., were  
in Harpers Ferry, W. Va., on 10/21/65 ostensibly representing,  
to the best of [REDACTED]'s recollection, the "John Brown  
Remembrance Society". [REDACTED] stated he had made this  
identification of these individuals based on their signatures  
on a guest register located at the Mather Training Center of  
the National Park Service, Harpers Ferry (which was formerly  
a Negro Baptist college, Storer College).

[REDACTED] continued that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]  
were seeking a place to hold a meeting which would be attended  
by about 700 people and they indicated a desire to hold the  
meeting on 12/4/65. The women determined that no facilities

3 - Bureau  
2 - New York (157-1542)  
1 - Pittsburgh

1 - Baltimore (157-1008) (Info)

JTM/jep  
(2)

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

16 NOV 5 1985

DATE 1-21-88 BY SP182/ [Signature] Per [Signature]

PG 157-429

were available for such a meeting on 12/4/65 and they therefore selected 12/11/65 as the proposed date for said meeting. They determined that a banquet could be held at the Hilltop House, a privately owned Harpers Ferry restaurant-hotel, and that the Hilltop House could accommodate 350 people.

██████████ stated that the women had spoken with Harpers Ferry Park Historian, ██████████ and were outspoken in complaints concerning various biographies of JOHN BROWN. It was ██████████'s recollection that the women were sympathetic to a man named DuBOIS, who had either attended Storer College in the past or was a benefactor of that college. ██████████ also stated that it was his recollection that this individual named DuBOIS later became a communist and went to Ghana.

The indices of the Pittsburgh Office are negative concerning John Brown Remembrance Society, ██████████ and ██████████.

It would appear that the above meeting arranged to be held on 12/11/65 at the Hilltop House in Harpers Ferry might possibly be identical with the meeting referred to in above Newark LHM.

New York and the Bureau are requested to check their respective files with regard to the John Brown Remembrance Society, ██████████, and ██████████, and advise Pittsburgh of the results thereof.

New York is also requested to check with its informants to ascertain whether the above-mentioned meeting scheduled for 12/11/65 is an affair being held in behalf of The Deacons for Defense.

In the event it is determined that the John Brown Remembrance Society has some affiliation with The Deacons for Defense, New York is requested to furnish a suitable characterization of The Deacons for Defense which, UACB, will be disseminated by this office to the National Park Service and the West Virginia State Police detachment covering Harpers Ferry, W. Va.

FBI  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 11/12/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11-12-81 BY SP1821/47-1

EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

DATE 11-12-81 BY SP1821/47-1

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466) CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1821/47-1  
(157 - REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2)  
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (157-572) DATE OF REVIEW 11-12-81  
(157-840)  
SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RM (ORGANIZATION)

RM

Re Chicago airtel to Bureau, 11/2/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are nine copies of letterhead memorandum and two copies for New Orleans information concerning captioned matter.

One copy of this letterhead memorandum is being designated for Region I, 113th INTC Group, U.S. Secret Service and USA, Chicago, Illinois.

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SER.;

DEPT: ISD, CRD, RAO & Community Relations

[REDACTED] (Protect by [REDACTED])

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

REC 36 11-2400-118

11/8/65 18 NOV 15 1965

- (4) - Bureau (Encls. 3) (RM)  
(1 - 157 [REDACTED])  
2 - New Orleans (157-3290) (Encls. 2) (info) (RM)  
(1 - 157 [REDACTED])  
2 - Chicago

LGR:djm

1cc & cc LHM

808 RB

Approved: [Signature] 22 1965  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent [REDACTED] M Per [REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

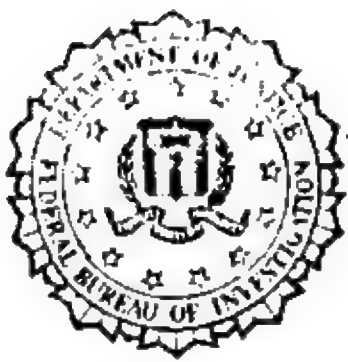
10 01 157-572  
11 157-840

12 LEAD

13  
14 CHICAGO

15  
16 AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. Will remain alert for  
17 any information concerning the opening of a Chicago Chapter  
18 of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc. and the Bureau  
19 and New Orleans will be kept fully informed of the development  
20 in this matter.  
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Chicago, Illinois  
November 12, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE  
RACIAL MATTERS (ORGANIZATION)

**[REDACTED] b7C**  
RACIAL MATTERS

Reference is made to memorandum dated November 2, 1965, at Chicago, Illinois.

On the dates indicated the following advised that no information has been developed that would indicate that a chapter of the Deacons of Defense and Justice, Inc. (DDJ) has been formed in Chicago. Earnest Thomas who is associated with the DDJ is reportedly still attempting to obtain office space in Chicago for an office of the DDJ but to date there has not been any indication that he has obtained any office space. Thomas has received virtually no support from any civil rights group in Chicago. There has not been any indication that Thomas has attempted to purchase or obtain any weapons while in Chicago. No information has been received concerning Thomas's whereabouts recently and Thomas may have returned to Louisiana:

**[REDACTED]**  
**[REDACTED]**  
and  
**[REDACTED]** (c) b1

Confidential informants who are acquainted with certain racial matters in the Chicago, Illinois, area advised during November, 1965, that Earnest Thomas of the DDJ has recently been in Chicago attempting to gain support for a Chicago Chapter of the DDJ. Thomas has not had any success in organizing a Chicago Chapter of the DDJ and has met considerable resistance from civil rights organizations in Chicago.

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1000 1-24-9-21-35  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-12-83

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

157-2466-

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.

CONFIDENTIAL

                    b7c                    

These informants also advised that there has not been any indication that Thomas has attempted to purchase or obtain any weapons while in Chicago. No information has been received concerning Thomas's whereabouts recently and Thomas may have returned to Louisiana.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Chicago, Illinois  
November 12, 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Title

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE,

[REDACTED] b7c

Character

RACIAL MATTERS

Reference

Memorandum dated and captioned  
as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities  
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished  
reliable information in the past.

[REDACTED] is [REDACTED] b1  
[REDACTED] b7D

This document contains neither recommendations nor  
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and  
is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not  
to be distributed outside your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: BERNARD S. LEE V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL  
(U.S.D.C, D.C.) CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1185

SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (SCLC)  
V. CLARENCE M. KELLEY, ET AL (U.S.D.C., D.C.)  
CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 76-1186

Unrecorded serial dated 11/9/65 pulled from this file  
under court order of U.S. District Judge John Lewis  
Smith, Jr., and sent to National Archives.

FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 11/15/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

(Priority)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, PITTSBURGH (157-429) (P)

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
RACIAL MATTERS

JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE  
IS - C

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1821/fh  
REASON: 1.05  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-15-85

Re Newark airtel to Bureau dated 9/20/65 and  
Pittsburgh airtel to New York dated 11/3/65 both entitled,  
"The Deacons For Defense"; and Washington Field Office  
airtel to Pittsburgh dated 11/5/65, titled "John Brown  
Commemoration Committee."

For the information of Washington Field Office,  
copies of the following in the case entitled "The Deacons  
For Defense" are enclosed:

1. Newark airtel to Bureau dated 9/20/65.
2. Newark LHM dated 9/20/65.
3. Pittsburgh airtel to New York dated 11/3/65.

For the information of the Newark Office, one copy  
of each of the following, in the case titled "JOHN BROWN  
COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE," are enclosed:

1. Washington Field Office airtel to  
Pittsburgh dated 11/5/65.
2. Xerox copy of announcement of the  
John Brown Memorial Pilgrimage.

- 1828 RP  
(3) - Bureau (RM)  
2 - Newark (Enc. 2) (RM)  
(157-1992)  
2 - New York (157-1542) (RM)  
2 - Washington Field [redacted] (RM)  
2 - Pittsburgh

ERF/emq

Approved: (11) [signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

M

Per



PG 157-429

It would appear that the John Brown Commemoration Committee may be an adjunct of The Deacons for Defense, and that the "Memorial Pilgrimage" scheduled for 12/11/65 at Harpers Ferry, W. Va., is identical with the planned meeting for 12/4/65, as set out in Newark LHM dated 9/20/65. In this connection, it is noted that the address for the John Brown Commemoration Committee is 100 West 82nd Street, New York, which was the address for the meeting of The Deacons for Defense mentioned in Newark airtel of 9/20/65. It is also noted that address for the West Side Unified Action Council is 100 West 82nd Street.

LEADS

NEWARK

NEW YORK

1. Will expedite Pittsburgh request for characterization of The Deacons for Defense and related organizations such as West Side Unified Action Council and the John Brown Commemoration Committee, with the degree of relationship of these organizations, so that this information will be available for dissemination to the National Park Service and [REDACTED] by 12/1/65. It is noted that National Park Service may decide to have additional rangers available for duty.

2. Will advise Pittsburgh if informants from New York will be covering the Pilgrimage.

3. Will advise Pittsburgh what specific coverage at Harpers Ferry, W. Va., if any, is desired.

CONFIDENTIAL

PG 157-429

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WASHINGTON FIELD

Will maintain contact with [REDACTED]  
who furnished the data concerning the Pilgrimage, and  
ascertain if he plans to attend the meeting on 12/11/65.

b7C  
b7D

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: NOV 26 1965

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (157-1542)

SUBJECT:

CHANGED

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTERSCLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 JAH/1  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-24-85

Title is marked "Changed" to reflect correct title of organization per New Orleans routing slip dated 11/9/65. Title previously carried as "DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE; RACIAL MATTERS".

Re NYO teletype to New Orleans 11/8/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau and New Orleans are copies of LHM in captioned case. Information copies are also being supplied to Chicago, Los Angeles and Philadelphia in view of Philadelphia letter to New Orleans dated 10/14/65, indicating that an article appearing in a Philadelphia weekly publication entitled "Nite Life" reflects CHARLES SIMS, leader of the Deacons of Defense and Justice (DDJ), is due in Philadelphia this winter as part of a nation-wide tour.

An information copy is also being supplied to Jackson in view of the trip made by one CHARLES SIMS, not further identified, to Jackson on 10/27/65.

- (C)
- 2- Bureau (Encls. 8) (RM)  
1- Chicago (Encls. 1) (Info) (RM)  
1- Jackson (Encls. 1) (Info) (RM)  
1- Los Angeles (Encls. 1) (Info) (RM)  
2- New Orleans (157-3290) (Encls. 2) (RM)  
1- Philadelphia (Encls. 1) (Info) (RM)  
1- New York

AGENCY: ACT. ONL. COL. SEC. SER.

GAJ:ers

(9)

DATE: 12/7/65

BY: RJS

APPROVED: B.P.M.



5010-108

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

HQA SEC.



NY 157-1542

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(C)

b1

Careful consideration was given to all sources concealed and T symbols were used only where necessary.

This LHM is classified "Confidential" to protect the identities of the above sources. Unauthorized disclosure of information attributed to these sources might impair their future effectiveness and such impairment could have an adverse effect on the national defense interests.

The information supplied by [redacted] was supplied to SA [redacted].

b7C  
b7D

On October 27, 1965, SA [redacted] made a pretext call [redacted]

b7C  
b7E

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 157-1542

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] b7E

It should be noted as set forth in attached LHM that it was announced that SIMS was unable to speak on 10/25/65, as he was required to return to Bogalusa, Louisiana, for a court appearance. However, the C. SIMS mentioned above departed New York City on 10/27/65. The NYO does not have sufficient background data available regarding the subject to determine if he is identical with the CHARLES SIMS who made the Jackson trip.

[REDACTED] b7C b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NYO indices contain no identifiable references on one [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] b7C b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-3-



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Bufile 157-2466  
NYfile 157-1542

New York, New York

NOV 24 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Deacons of Defense and Justice

Confidential sources mentioned in this communication and the appendix attached hereto have provided reliable information in the past.

The "Workers World", volume 7, number 20, page 3, dated October 14, 1965, contained an article captioned "President of Deacons for Defense to Speak in New York" which reflects that it was announced by Rictue Le Seur, a friend of the Deacons, from the newly opened office of the Friends of the Deacons for Defense and Justice (FDDJ), 271 West 125th Street, Room 209, New York, New York, that Charles Sims, founder of the Deacons for Defense and Justice (DDJ) and Robert Hicks, Vice President of the Bogalusa, Louisiana, Voters League will speak in New York on October 23 and 25, 1965.

The meeting on October 23, 1965, will be at 8:30 p.m. in the Unitarian Hall, Clinton and Fillmore Streets, West Brighton, Staten Island, New York.

On October 25, 1965, a rally will be held at 8:00 p.m. in Emanuel Temple, 37 West 119th Street, New York City.

A characterization of the "Workers World" is attached in the appendix hereto.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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~~GROUP 1~~  
~~Excluded from automatic~~  
~~downgrading and~~  
~~declassification.~~

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gch/11 7-21-88  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.20 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-24-88

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

ENCLOSURE



Deacons of Defense and Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"The Worker", volume XXX, number 80, page 2, dated October 24, 1965, contained an article captioned "Deacons President to Speak in New York" which set forth substantially the same information as that contained in the above mentioned article.

"The Worker" is an east coast Communist newspaper.

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED] that [REDACTED] is a member of the Workers World Party.

b1  
b7C

A characterization of the YAWF appears in the appendix attached hereto.

[REDACTED] supplied substantially the same information set forth above but also advised that the DDJ was to hold a meeting on October 24, 1965, believed to be in Manhattan.

b1

On October 25, 1965, [REDACTED]

b7C  
b7D


[REDACTED] advised that Charles Sims,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Deacons of Defense and Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

President of the DDJ in Louisiana, arrived in New York City, 1:15 p.m., October 23, 1965, at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFKIA) on Delta Airlines Flight 976.

 <sup>b1</sup> he attended (c) a fund raising affair for the DDJ at the Unitarian Church Hall, Clinton and Fillmore Streets, Staten Island, New York, from 8:50 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., October 23, 1965.

The source stated Mae Mallory took up most of the time relating her experiences in the civil rights movement and praising Robert Williams. She pointed out the similarities between Robert Williams' approach and the approach of the DDJ to the civil rights movement. Robert Hicks spoke about the various incidents that occurred in Bogalusa, Louisiana, while attempting to register Negroes to vote. Jerry Gutman, introduced as an attorney for Charles Sims, differed with Mae Mallory, stating that the DDJ is a legally constituted organization which is defensive and will remain so.

Robert Williams is characterized in the Revolutionary Action Movement which appears in the appendix attached hereto.

Charles Sims spoke about the background of the DDJ and stated the purpose of the DDJ is to protect Negro and white civil rights workers. He stated the DDJ is able to effectively deal with the Ku Klux Klan, however, he was critical of the local sheriff's office, stating the past Wednesday (October 20, 1965) the sheriff obtained the names of the DDJ

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Deacons of Defense and Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

leaders and arrested them on various charges.

A characterization of the Ku Klux Klan appears in the appendix attached hereto.

During the question and answer period which followed the speeches Sims stated his primary concern is with the Bogalusa chapter of the DDJ. He stated there are 50 DDJ chapters throughout the south although he declined to comment on the total number of members. Admission of \$2.00 per person was charged. Approximately 60 to 80 persons attended.

[REDACTED] He attended (C) b1 the above mentioned affair and provided essentially the same information as [REDACTED] but in addition stated (C) b1 Sims did not criticize any particular approach to the civil rights effort. Sim's main theme appeared to be that those engaged in bargaining on civil rights issues such as Robert Hicks should be assured protection for themselves and their families.

After the meeting a reception was held for the persons who had appeared at the home of Ricque Le Seur on Staten Island.

[REDACTED] that [REDACTED] b7C b1  
[REDACTED] and 25 members of the b7C  
Brooklyn, New York, chapter of Congress of Racial  
Equality (CORE) attended the above mentioned affair.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] b1 b7C  
(C)

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Deacons of Defense and Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The CP has been designated pursuant to  
Executive Order 10450 by the Attorney  
General of the United States.

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Deacons of Defense and Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7c

that (c) b1

b7c

He attended (c) b1 a fund raising affair at Washington Temple Church of God in Christ, 1372 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, on October 24, 1965, where approximately 40 persons were present. This meeting was held after the regular church service which is from 9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Charles Sims stated during his speech that he is not a speaker, he is a "fighter". He spoke about the background of the DDJ but made no mention of firearms. When Sims requested donations for the organization, most of the audience walked out, however, a collection was taken. The source characterized Sims as a very reserved, very uninteresting speaker.

The "New York Herald Tribune", page 2, dated October 25, 1965, contained an article captioned "Armed Resistance By Negroes Urged" in which it was indicated that at a news conference Robert Hix, the Reverend William H. Melish and Charles Sims said "Negroes are going to start hitting back and perhaps should even arm themselves on the picket line." Hix qualified his statement by saying "Laws must be obeyed." The Reverend William Howard Melish, identified as a DDJ member, said "Arms were justified to protect life and property."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Deacons of Defense and Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reverend William H. Melish

[REDACTED] that William H. Melish was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship (NCASF) as of April 11, 1964. (c) b1

The NCASF has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[REDACTED] 300 to (c) b1  
400 persons attended a meeting held at Emanuel AME Church, 37 West 119th Street, New York City, from 8:15 to 10:45 October 25, 1965, at which Jesse Gray, the master of ceremonies, apologized for the absence of Charles Sims, who was to be the main speaker. Gray stated that Sims had to return to Louisiana in order not to forfeit bail on a local charge.

Mae Mallory gave a speech in which she stated each gun for the Deacons cost \$80.00. Mallory asked those in attendance to pledge a gun individually for the Deacons. Several persons signed pledges for guns. A collection of \$126.00 was taken up for the Deacons.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7C  
[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] b1  
[REDACTED] (c)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Deacons of Defense and Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] Charles (C) bl  
Sims of the Deacons spoke at a public meeting sponsored by the YAWF at Academy Hall, 853 Broadway, New York City. Sims recounted experiences of racial persecution and claimed that the persecution had been somewhat alleviated through the formation of the Deacons, which are armed for self defense. Sims indicated that the DDJ in Bogalusa had about 200 followers and indicated a new unit was being formed in Chicago. Sims asked for contributions to carry on the work of the DDJ and a collection was made for him.

The "Workers World", volume 7, number 22, page 1, dated November 11, 1965, contained an article captioned "Charles Sims, Deacon of Defense President, speaks in NYC" which reflects Sims addressed a meeting of 300 at Academy Hall, New York City, sponsored by the YAWF.

The article reflects Sims stated civil rights workers, some of them white, had been threatened with physical violence by the Klan and were about to be attacked when he and some friends started an armed defense guard in Bogalusa, Louisiana, in the early part of this year.

Having staked out his men around the local CORE headquarters, Sims saw the chief of police looking things over. At first inclined to ignore the chief, since he knew him as a racist probably in league with the Klan himself, he changed his mind, went over to him and said: "You better stop 'em. 'cause if you don't we're gonna kill them all."

The chief apparently did not take this statement lightly. There was no trouble and Sims reported: "That night a brand new Negro was born."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Deacons of Defense and Justice

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A collection of \$400.00 was raised from the audience. Over \$200.00 was raised at a house party in Brooklyn later on.

On November 1, 1965, [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] was contacted by an unknown individual [REDACTED] stated Charles Sims departed New York City on November 1, 1965, for return to Bogalusa, Louisiana.

b7C  
b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1.APPENDIXUNITED KLANS OF AMERICA, INC.,  
KNIGHTS OF THE KU KLUX KLAN

Records of Superior Court of Fulton County, Georgia, reflect that this Klan organization was granted a corporate charter on February 21, 1961, at Atlanta, Georgia, under the name United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc.

A source advised on February 27, 1961, that United Klans was formed as a result of a split in U.S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc. According to the source, the split resulted from a leadership dispute and United Klans has the same aims and objectives as the parent group. These are the promotion of Americanism, white supremacy, and segregation of the races.

The first source and a second source advised in July, 1961, that United Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan of America, Inc., merged with Alabama Knights, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan. The merged organization established headquarters in Suite 401, the Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. (The organization is directed by ROBERT SHELTON, Imperial Wizard, and is the dominant Klan group in the South, with units in several Southern states.)

Second source advised that at a meeting at Prattville, Alabama, on October 22, 1961, the U.S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, merged with the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

Third source advised on August 4, 1965, that the United Klans of America, Inc., Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, is currently an active organization, with Klaverns in several Southern states. This source said that ROBERT M. SHELTON is the Imperial Wizard of this organization, and was last elected to this position on September 5, 1964, at a National Klonvocation in Birmingham, Alabama. Source said that the activity of the United Klans of America is increasing and that the national office remains in Suite 401, Alston Building, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.



1.

APPENDIX

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

On November 3, 1964, a source made available a document entitled "The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto," the document having been obtained by the source from an individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM).

This document stated, in part, that RAM was officially organized in the Winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support the revolutionary objectives of ROBERT F. WILLIAMS, now residing in Cuba, and his concept of organized violence to achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented its program to one of education and political revolution and the organization of a "black" political party with revolutionary objectives, having recognized the need for a "black revolution" that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is, one involving the struggles of the nonwhite races of the world against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist and imperialist nations.

Regarding WILLIAMS, it should be noted that on August 28, 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte, North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of kidnapping. Subsequent to the issuance of this warrant, WILLIAMS fled the United States to Cuba, where he now publishes a monthly newsletter entitled "The Crusader" from Havana.

This source in September, 1964, advised RAM is dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States, by violence if necessary, and to its replacement by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese communist interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely nonwhite in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary allegiance to the "Bandung World," that is, the nonwhite races of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.

On November 16, 1964, a second source advised he learned recently from an RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan, largely under the impetus of DON FREEMAN, described as the "Father" of RAM and referred to

2.

APPENDIX

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

as RAM's "Black Stalin." FREEMAN served as RAM Chairman, with MAXWELL STANFORD, now of New York City, formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman.

This source stated in May, 1965, there has been no formal headquarters, as such, for RAM but that headquarters have been with FREEMAN since he has played such a dominant role in the leadership of and has directed the policies and activities of the organization.

Within recent months, according to the second source, dissension within RAM has become evident and some dissatisfaction with FREEMAN's leadership has arisen. So far as is known, however, he remains the titular leader of RAM.

To date, according to the second source in May, 1965, RAM has organized units and membership in several of the larger cities in the United States east of the Mississippi River and the organization is currently active in attempting to recruit new members and expand its sphere of influence.

APPENDIX

"WORKERS WORLD"

On May 3, 1965, a confidential source advised that the "Workers World" is the official newspaper of the Workers World Party, published twice monthly, with editorial offices located at 46 West 21st Street, New York, New York.



SECRET X

1.

APPENDIX

WORKERS WORLD PARTY

On April 17, 1959, a confidential source advised that on February 12, 1959, a Socialist Workers Party (SWP) minority group under the leadership of National Committee member, SAM BALLAN, split from the SWP.

The source stated that this minority group, referred to as the Marcyites, after many years of program and policy differences on varied issues concerning tactics and interpretation of political events, split from the SWP on the grounds that the Party was liquidating itself by departing from the Marxist precepts of LEON TROTSKY and retreating from the fight for the world socialist revolution. The final issue which ultimately forced the split was the minority's opposition to the SWP regroupment policy which involved co-operation with the Communist Party (CP) periphery-individuals characterized by the minority as petty-bourgeois.

The minority program, according to source, advocated unconditional defense of the Soviet Union and has as its goal the building of a revolutionary party with a complete proletarian orientation for the purpose of overthrowing capitalism in the United States and throughout the world.

On May 12, 1960, source advised that this minority group had chosen the name Workers World Party.

On May 3, 1965, second source advised that the Workers World Party, which maintains headquarters at 46 West 21st Street, New York, New York, supports the People's Republic of China in its ideological dispute with the Soviet Union.

The SWP and the CP have been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

X

1.

APPENDIX

YOUTH AGAINST WAR AND FASCISM

A confidential source advised on March 29, 1965, that the Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF), formerly known as the Anti-Fascist Youth Committee, was established by the Workers World Party (WWP) in the summer of 1962, to bring college and high school youth into the periphery of WWP activities and thereby gain recruits for the organization.

A second confidential source advised on October 23, 1964, that a flyer distributed by the YAWF describes that organization as a militant organization of young workers and worker-students for combating war and fascism.

The first source advised on March 29, 1965, that the YAWF maintains an office in Room 1214, 1123 Broadway, New York City, and publishes a magazine called "The Partisan."

CONFIDENTIAL

FBI

Date: 11/18/65

CONFIDENTIAL

(Type in plaintext or code)

transmit the following in

AIRTEL

REGISTERED

(Priority)

TO: Director, FBI

FROM: SAC, Detroit (157-NEW) (P)

RALLY OF ~~DEACONS~~ FOR DEFENSE AND  
JUSTICE SPONSORED BY CONGRESS OF  
RACIAL EQUALITY (CORE)

11/29/65

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

RM

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of an LHM regarding captioned planned rally. Two copies of LHM are being furnished the New Orleans Division, which Office has an interest in the Deacons for Defense and Justice.

One copy of LHM being furnished G-2, ONI, OSI, USI and two copies being furnished Secret Service, all Detroit, Mich.

██████████ and ██████████ are aware of contents of LHM. REC-12

This matter will be followed and Bureau advised after reply.

ENCLOSURE

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 8) (RM)  
2 - New Orleans (Enc. 2) (RM)  
3 - Detroit

(1 - 157-706 POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE)

FJP/rms  
(8)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 SEP 14 7-22-80

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2

-DATE OF REVIEW 11-78

ACERON:

DATE FORN

FOUO - RUC

1998

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reply, Please Refer to

Detroit, Michigan  
November 18, 1965

Re: Rally of Deacons for Defense and  
Justice Sponsored by Congress Of  
Racial Equality (CORE)  
November 20, 1965  
Detroit, Michigan

On November 17, 1965, a source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that CORE is the sponsor of a rally for the Deacons for Defense and Justice to be held on Saturday, November 20, 1965, beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the new St. Peters Baptist Church, Woodrow Wilson and Pingree Streets in Detroit.

According to the source, this rally is being held in an effort to raise money for the Deacons for Defense and Justice who are having difficulty raising funds in the South because of local hostility and economic pressures against them there. Source advised that Ernest Thomas, a Vice President of the Deacons for Defense and Justice from Jonesboro, Louisiana, will be the featured speaker at this rally.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is the property of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-21-80 BY SP182H/ff

21-6-91

FBI

Date: 11/22/65

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-21-00 BY SP-10/10

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (157-1140) (C)

RALLY OF DEACONS FOR DEFENSE  
AND JUSTICE SPONSORED BY CORE,  
11/20/65, DETROIT, MICH.

RM

Remyairtel and LHM 11/18/65.

Enclosed for the Bureau are eight copies of a letterhead memorandum concerning captioned rally, which was held as scheduled on 11/20/65. Two copies of the LHM are being furnished the New Orleans Division, which office has an interest in the Deacons for Defense and Justice and two copies are being furnished the Chicago Division in view of reference in enclosed LHM to plans for establishing northern branch of the "Deacons" at Chicago, Ill.

One copy of LHM is being furnished G-2, GMI, OSI and USA, and two copies of LHM being furnished U.S. Secret Service, all Detroit, Mich.

Source utilized in LHM is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (by request).

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ has been apprised of the data in LHM.

ENCLOSURE

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 8) (RM)
- 2 - New Orleans (Enc. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Chicago (Enc. 2) (RM)
- 2 - Detroit
- 1 - 157-706 (POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE)

FJP:sal  
(9)

D. C. Wick

AGENCY: AGM, GMI, OSI, FBI, SER.

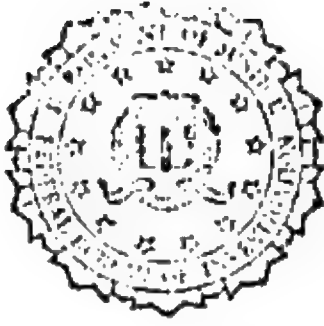
Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

Per \_\_\_\_\_

65 DEC 2 1965



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Detroit, Michigan  
November 22, 1965

Re: Rally of Deacons for Defense  
and Justice Sponsored by  
Congress of Racial Equality (CORE),  
November 20, 1965, Detroit, Michigan

Reference is made to memorandum at Detroit,  
Michigan, dated November 18, 1965.

On November 22, 1965, a source, who has  
furnished reliable information in the past, advised  
that on November 20, 1965, beginning at approximately  
8:00 PM and ending at approximately 11:00 PM, a rally  
for the Deacons for Defense and Justice, sponsored by  
CORE, was held at the new St. Peter's Baptist Church,  
Woodrow Wilson and Pingree Streets in Detroit. Source  
advised that approximately 100 individuals attended  
this rally and admission was charged for same.

According to the source, the keynote speaker  
was Ernest Thomas, a vice-president of the Deacons for  
Defense and Justice from Jonesboro, Louisiana, and  
several other local individuals also spoke. The tenor  
of the rally was a relating of the racial situation both  
in the North and the South and an explanation of the need  
for and purpose of the Deacons for Defense and Justice.  
It was stated that the main purpose of the rally was to  
raise funds which are to be used in plans toward establish-  
ing the first northern branch of the Deacons for Defense  
and Justice at Chicago, Illinois.

According to the source, the rally was peaceful  
and orderly.

This document contains neither recommendations  
nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the  
FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents  
are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-21-80 BY SP1 gpf/jk

157-111-92



SAC, Savannah

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

11/20/65

Director, FBI (157-2466)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

1 - Mr. Murphy

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RACIAL MATTERS

CLASS & EXT. BY SP1/24/11/7-21  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-20-88

ReNYteletype to Bureau and Columbia, via Savannah.

[REDACTED]

Savannah should check the accuracy of the above  
telephone listing as same appears to be one digit short.

New Orleans as Office of Origin regarding captioned  
organization, should make the necessary inquiries for any  
available information regarding the formation of the self-  
defense unit in Saint George, South Carolina.

The above caption should be utilized in this  
investigation until such time as the proper title of this  
organization is determined.

- 1 - New Orleans (157-3290)
- 1 - New York (157-1542)

REC 1

BPM:rth (6)

11 NOV 29 1965

NOTE: The Deacons of Defense and Justice is a Negro organization  
whose main purpose is to arm Negroes for protection against Klan  
violence, and also has been active in racial demonstrations.

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



SAC, San Antonio (157-413)

10/13/65

SAC, Albany (157-163) (RUC)

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RACIAL MATTER

Re San Antonio airtel and LHM dated 9/16/65 to  
Bureau.

On 9/22/65, [REDACTED] Cornell University, advised SA [REDACTED], that MARK MAIN and DOUGLAS MAINLINE had both returned to Cornell University. On 9/23/65, [REDACTED] made available a copy of a one page throwaway which he stated that he had learned was being distributed on the Cornell University Campus. DOUGLAS MAINLINE obtained authority for this distribution. This material is captioned "Armed Negro Unit Spreads to South" and contains an account from the June 6, 1965, issue of the "New York Times" concerning the activities of the Deacons of Defense and Justice in various Southern states. The following is set forth:

"The Civil Rights Movement has espoused total non-violence. While the racists' reaction to the Movement has become more and more ferocious, legal authorities have at best given only token aid to the Negro and, at worst, actually aided the racists.

"The Civil Rights Movement must now take up arms for its own protection--so that it can continue to exist and struggle.

②-San Antonio (RM)  
1-Albany

SM:mjc  
(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-21-80 BY SP1826/11

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



10 11-163

11  
12 'Here at firsthand an account of the Deacons  
13 Movement by Mark Klein who is speaking on 'Armed Self  
14 Defense--The Next Stage in the Negro Struggle'.

15  
16 'Mr. Klein, a Cornell senior, participated  
17 in the Civil Rights Movement in Texas and has met and  
18 talked with Charles Sims, a major leader of the Deacons  
19 Movement who has given Klein permission to publicize the  
20 Deacons and to raise money for them."

21  
22 The throwaway then goes on to advertise this  
23 meeting to be held at 8:15 PM on September 28, 1965,  
24 at Ives Hall on the Cornell Campus and states that  
25 "the formation of a committee at Cornell to aid the  
26 Deacons will be discussed".

27  
28 The September 29, 1965, issue of the "Cornell  
29 Daily Sun", a daily student newspaper published at Cornell  
30 University, Ithaca, N.Y. contained an account of the above  
31 meeting. This account states that KLEIN, who was the speaker,  
32 received permission from Deacon leader WILLIE SELL to  
33 Bogalusa, Louisiana, to raise money for the organization.  
34 During his speech, KLEIN stated that the Deacons of  
35 Defense and Justice are not an arm of rebellion, not a  
36 terrorist revenge group, not a group dedicated to violence  
37 for violence' sake, but an organization to protect the  
38 home and family of the Southern Negro. He pointed out  
39 that between 1890 and 1950 there were over 3,000 documented  
40 Negro lynchings in the South and concluded that the situation  
41 has not greatly changed.

42  
43 He claimed that CORE found out that their field  
44 workers were safer when the Deacons were around and that  
45 they then took the hypocritical attitude of "protected  
46 non-violence".

47  
48 KLEIN stated that guns are not a solution to the  
49 problem of the Negro, but merely a protection under which  
50 to work. He said that local police, State justice and  
51 Federal help are all ineffective in protecting the Negro,

AL 157-163

claiming that sheriffs have beers with Klan members and that the FBI "takes notes and pictures while you get beat up". He said that the Deacons act as a deterrent to violence since "white racists are not willing to trade their superior lives for Negroes' inferior ones".

KLEIN claimed that in the Southern States, there is no law for the Negro or the Civil Rights worker and that to continue non-violence there is to invite more violence.

KLEIN indicated that he was trying to start a new group on campus to aid the Deacons and to bring a Deacon speaker up to Cornell.

TELETYPE UNIT

NOV 19 1965

ENCODED MESSAGE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI NEW YORK

9-17 PM EST DEFERRED 11/19/65 M.F.R.

TO DIRECTOR, FBI //15// AND COLUMBIA (VIA SAVANNAH)

COLUMBIA VIA (SAVANNAH) ENCODED VIA WASHINGTON

FROM NEW YORK

(157-1542)

ASS. & EXT. BY

*SP1841/10.5/11/19/65*

REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2

DATE OF REVIEW

*11-19-85*

DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, RACIAL MATTER

[REDACTED]

END-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

WA... LLD FOR R

FBI WSASH DC

EX-113

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NOV 20 1965



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

DATE: 11/30/65

FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (157-1008) -RUC-

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RACIAL MATTERS  
OO: NEW ORLEANS

Re Pittsburgh letter to Bureau 10/12/65; New York letter to Bureau 10/28/65; Pittsburgh airtel to Bureau 11/3/65.

Enclosed for New Orleans is one copy each of Baltimore airtel to Bureau 8/17/65 and re Pittsburgh letter and airtel.

On 11/19/65, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was discretely interviewed by SA [REDACTED] relative to the Kennedy farm and farmhouse, commonly referred to as "JOHN BROWN's Farm" located in the southern part of Washington County, Md., mailing address of Rt. 1, Harper's Ferry, West Va. It was determined that this property, previously utilized as a "regional" headquarters for the "Negro Elks", has been for sale for sometime.

It was further determined [REDACTED] that there has been no affairs held at "JOHN BROWN's Farm" in recent months, and he was unaware of any meetings or gatherings of any size to be held at this site within the coming months. [REDACTED] is unaware of the use to which [REDACTED] plans to put this property; he thought [REDACTED] might have intentions of establishing a boys camp there.

- 1808 RB
- (2) - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)
  - 1 - New York (157-1542) (Info) REGISTERED MAIL
  - 2 - New Orleans (157-3290 (Enc. 3) REGISTERED MAIL
  - 1 - Pittsburgh (157-429) (Info) REGISTERED MAIL
  - 1 - Baltimore

RIM:par

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DEC 10 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



INT. SEC.

REC-21

DEC 2 1965

BA 157-1008

In view of the above and the information contained in re Pittsburgh airtel 11/3/65 reflecting that captioned organization apparently has scheduled the affair, planned for 12/4/65, at the Hilltop House, Harper's Ferry, West Va., on 12/11/65, no further investigation of this matter is being conducted by Baltimore and no contact with [REDACTED] is being considered. Baltimore indices contained no information on [REDACTED].

FBI

Date: 11/19/65

Transmit the following in

(Type in plain text or code)

AIRTEL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)

FROM: SAC, SAN ANTONIO (157-413) RUC

RE: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE  
RM

AGENCY:

ACSI, ONI, GSI, SEC. SER. 1  
DIRT, ISD, ORD, REG

OO: NO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP19/11/7-12  
REASON: FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-29-05

Re San Antonio airtel dated 11/19/65, and Bureau  
routing slip dated 11/24/65.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are 8 copies of  
LHM on captioned subject matter.

Enclosed for Houston and New York are two copies  
each of LHM on captioned matter for informational purposes  
since these offices have an interest in the organization.

Four copies of the LHM are enclosed for Albany  
which is requested to disseminate two copies to Secret Service  
locally.

Two copies of the LHM are enclosed to New Orleans,  
office of origin, together with the following communications,  
which may be of interest to the New Orleans Office:

- 3-Bureau (Encs. 8) RM
- 2-New Orleans (Encs. 3) RM
- 2-Houston (Encs. 2) RM
- 2-New York (Encs. 2) RM
- 2-Albany (157-163) (Encs. 4) RM
- 2-SA

(1-157-413)  
(1-66-1620)

LJC:eks  
(13)

1cc & cc LHM  
808 RB

EX-11A

REC-495 7-2466-97

DEC 2 1965

ENCLOSURE  
DEC 1965

E. C. Wick

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

San Antonio airtel to Bureau, 8/9/65,  
captioned The Committee to Aid the Deacons.

San Antonio airtel and accompanying LHM  
dated 8/20/65, captioned The Committee to  
Aid the Deacons.

San Antonio airtel and accompanying LHM  
dated 8/20/65, captioned The Committee to  
Aid the Deacons.

San Antonio airtel and accompanying LHM dated  
8/26/65, captioned The Committee to Aid the  
Deacons.

San Antonio airtel and accompanying LHM dated  
8/28/65, captioned The Committee to Aid the  
Deacons.

[REDACTED]

b7D

New York letter to San Antonio, dated 10/7/65,  
captioned Committee to Aid the Deacons, RM.

One copy each of LHM has been disseminated locally to  
CSI, ONI, and 112th INTC. Two copies of LHM have been furnished  
Secret Service, San Antonio.

INFORMANTS

[REDACTED]

b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SA 157-413

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFICATION

The enclosed LHM is classified "Confidential" due to the fact that information furnished by [REDACTED] could (C) b1 reasonably result in identification of a confidential informant of continuing value and compromise future effectiveness thereof.

- 3 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
San Antonio, Texas

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

November 18, 1968

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 gph/fh 7-22  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11-29-85

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

On September 28, 1968, [REDACTED] b7C  
[REDACTED] Cornell University, advised that MARK KLEIN b7D  
and DOUGLAS HAINLINE had both returned to Cornell  
University. On September 28, 1968, [REDACTED] made  
available a copy of a one-page broad-leaf, which he stated  
he had learned was being distributed in the Cornell  
University campus. DOUGLAS HAINLINE, [REDACTED] author  
for this distribution. This material, captioned, "Negro  
Unit Speaks in South" and dated June 6, 1968, from  
the June 6, 1968, issue of the New York Times concerning  
the activities of the Deacons of Defense in various  
various southern states. The following is set forth:

"The Civil Rights Movement has brought  
total non-violence. While the movement has been  
to the Negroes has become more and more violent,  
legal authorities have at best generally, looked  
on to the Negro and, at best, have aided  
the process.

"The Civil Rights Movement must be  
up arms for its own protection. So that it  
can continue to exist and struggle.

"Here at firsthand an account of the Deacons  
Movement by Mark Klein who is speaking on Armed  
Self Defense - The Next Stage in the Negro Struggle.

"Mr. Klein, a Cornell student, participated  
in the Civil Rights Movement in Texas and has met  
and talked with Charles Sims, a major leader of  
the Deacons Movement who has given Klein permission  
to publicize the Deacons and to raise money for them."

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

157-2466-11

ENCLOSURE



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

The throw away then goes on to advertise this meeting to be held at 8:15 p.m. on September 28, 1966, at Ives Hall on the Cornell campus and states that "the formation of a committee at Cornell to aid the Deacons will be discussed."

The September 29, 1966, issue of the Cornell Daily Sun, a daily student newspaper published at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, contained an account of the above meeting. This account states that KLEIN, who was the speaker, received permission from Deacon leader, CHARLES SIMS, in Bogalusa, Louisiana, to raise money for the organization. During his speech, KLEIN stated that the Deacons of Defense and Justice are not an armed rebellion, not a terrorist revenge group, not a group dedicated to violence for violence's sake, but an organization to protect the home and family of the Southern Negro. He pointed out that between 1890 and 1950 there were over 3,300 documented Negro lynchings in the South and concluded that the situation has not greatly changed.

He claimed that the Congress on Racial Equality (CORE) told our that their field workers were safer when the Deacons were around and that they then took the hypocritical attitude of "protected non-violence."

KLEIN stated that guns are not a solution to the problem of the Negro, but merely a protection under which to work. He said that local police, State justice and Federal help are all ineffective in protecting the Negro, claiming that sheriffs have been with Klan members and that the FBI "takes notes and pictures while you get beat up." He said that the Deacons act as a deterrent to violence since "white racists are not willing to trade their superior lives for Negroes' inferior ones."

KLEIN claimed that in the Southern states, there is no law for the Negro or the civil rights worker and that to continue nonviolence there is to invite more violence.

KLEIN indicated that he was trying to start a new group on campus to aid the Deacons and to bring a Deacon speaker up to Cornell.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

On August 8, 1965, while in Austin, Texas, KLM described "the Deacons" as an armed Negro self-defense group."

[REDACTED] (C)

b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

[REDACTED]

b7D

At this time, KLEIN listed the address of the Committee to Aid the Deacons as P. O. Box 1500, University Station, Austin, Texas. The addressee of the above letter was not known by [REDACTED] (c) b1

On October 13, 1966, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] had indicated that there was no interest in the above organization in Austin and that it would "sit on the vine."

b7  
b7

[REDACTED] pointed out that both KLEIN and [REDACTED] were in Austin and there is no leadership in the organization, Deacons of Defense and Justice, in Austin.

[REDACTED] b1 he had [REDACTED] (c) no information indicating that the above organization is active in Austin.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

San Antonio, Texas

November 29, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Title DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE

Character

Reference San Antonio memorandum dated  
and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities  
are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable  
information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions  
of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to  
your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed  
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FBI 12/6/65

Date: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Transmit the following in  
A I N T E L

(Type in plaintext) REGISTERED

12ia (Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, NEWARK

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP188/H17-22  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 12-6-85

SUBJECT: THE DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RM  
Newark File 157-1922  
Bureau File 157-2436

JOHN BROWN COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE  
IS-C  
Newark File 100-43717  
Bureau File 100-

AGENCIES  
ADVISED BY  
SLIP (S) 12/15/65

Re Pittsburgh airtel to Bureau, dated 11/15/65. (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (c)

- 6 - Bureau
- 4 - Pittsburgh (157-429)
- (2-100- )
- 5 - Newark

REC- 51

8 DEC 7 1965

JRL:tim  
(15)  
Approved: RWB  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Per

Optional Form No. 10  
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
MEMORANDUM

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 12/1/65

FROM: *g m j* SAC, Savannah

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC.  
RM

BUFILE NO: 157-2466  
SAVANNAH FILE NO: 157-731  
COLUMBIA FILE NO: *157-122*

Due to the opening of the Columbia Office, the following action is being taken in captioned matter:

A. LOCATION OF FILE

1. ( ) Entire file transferred to Columbia herewith.
2. ( ) File transferred to Columbia except one copy following serials retained at Savannah:
3. ( *x* ) File retained at Savannah but one copy of following serials transferred to Columbia:

see pg. 2

B. OFFICE OF ORIGIN

- ( ) Savannah  
( ) Columbia  
( *x* ) New Orleans

C. STATUS

- ( *x* ) PENDING  
( ) RUC to Columbia  
( ) Closed to Columbia

- 1 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - New Orleans (RM)  
1 - Columbia (RM)  
1 - Savannah  
SAS:jfs  
(4)

*157-2466*  
NOT RECORDED

6 DEC 1 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *7-22-80* BY *SP1 gcl/jk*



SV 157-731

1. SVmemo of Supv. [REDACTED], 6/11/65
2. SVmemo of SAC JAMES T. NEAGLE, 7/21/65
3. CEtel to Bureau, 7/14/65
4. Newspaper clipping, "Wall Street Journal", 7/12/65
5. Buairtel to SV, 7/19/65
6. NOairtel to Bureau, 8/4/65
7. SVmemo of SA [REDACTED], 8/12/65
8. NOrep. of SA [REDACTED], 8/17/65
9. FD 209, 8/29/65
10. FD 209, 8/29/65
11. SVlet to Bureau, 9/15/65

b7c

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_

(Type in plaintext or code)

AIRTEL

12/10/65

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-441968)

FROM: SAC, WFO (157-425) (P)

ASSOCIATED COMMUNITY TEAMS (ACT)

IS - C

*O DEACONS FOR DEFENSE WFO*

Reairtel from Philadelphia, 12/6/65. Also reWFOairtel and LHM captioned 'ORGANIZATION FOR BLACK POWER, RACIAL MATTERS', dated 11/18/65, with no copies for Baltimore and New Haven.

5-Bureau

(1- 157-3022) (OBP)

(1- ) (LFDJ)

3-Baltimore (RM) (100-23349)

(1- 157- ) (OBP)

4-Chicago (RM) (157-303)

(1- 157-678) (OBP)

(1- ) ( )

2-New Haven (RM) (100-18253)

6-WFO

(1- 157-583) (OBP)

(1- 157-528) ( )

(1- 157-237) (LIAISON SOURCES)

(1- 157-433) (POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE)

(1- 157-448) (RACIAL RIOTS)

(Copy count continued on page 2)

W/dan

(33)

AIRTEL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-22-88 BY SP184/11

157-2446-

NOT RECORDED  
103 DEC 15 1965

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

WFO 157-425

(Continued copy count)

5-New Orleans (RM)

(1- ) (OBP)

(1- ) (DEACONS FOR DEFENSE AND JUSTICE)

(1- ) ( )

3-New York (RM) (100-152916)

(1- 157-1469) (OBP)

5-Philadelphia (RM) (100-47502)

(1- 157-1508) (OBP)

(1- 157-47093) ( )

(1- 157-7000) ( )

b7C

On 12/10/65, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (protect identity, has furnished reliable information in the past) stated as follows:

He has no information that [REDACTED] Pennsylvania, plans to lead a new civil rights organization.

[REDACTED] of ACT, Organization For Black Power (OBP), Deacons For Defense and Justice (DFDJ) and others (not named) on a future date (not named) to discuss future plans of activity. [REDACTED] does not expect such meeting will take place until 1966, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a "fund raising" rally in Washington, D. C. for the benefit of the Deacons For Defense and Justice. This has to be approved by ERNEST THOMAS, currently in Chicago. THOMAS is Regional Vice President, DFDJ, and is to appear at the rally. The rally will not be held in 1965, but awaits plans for 1966.

WFO 157-425

██████████ stated that he knows of no plans for any future demonstrations by ACT in Washington, D. C. He had no information regarding future plans by ACT, OBP, and DFDJ elsewhere.

Liaison will be maintained with ██████████.

b7C  
b7D



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

ROUTING UNIT DIRECTOR, FBI (157-2466)  
ERROR LETTER SENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 12/14/65

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (157-3290)

SUBJECT: DEACONS OF DEFENSE AND JUSTICE, INC., aka  
RM

Re Bulet to Savannah, 11/26/65. (J)

[REDACTED]

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP15001/4 7-22-80  
REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 12-14-85

- 3 - Bureau  
1 - Savannah  
2 - Columbia  
2 - New Orleans

MAK:mnw  
(8)

REC-48

157-2466-99

DEC 16 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INT. SEC.



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan